**8. Discontent and Reform**

**(late 19th - early 20th centuries)**

(lecture worksheet)

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| **Important dates:** | **1877 (the Great Rail Strike), 1900 (the Anthracite Miner’s Strike), 1901–1909 (r. Roosevelt's presidency), 1913–1921 (W. Wilson's presidency)** |
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| **Names and Places:** | **Samuel Gompers, Mark Twain, Upton Sinclair, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson,**  **The Noble Order of the Knights of Labor (NOKL, or Knights of Labor), The American Federation of Labor, the Great Rail Strike of 1877, The Pullman Palace Car Company, the Granger movement, the Grangers (or Patrons of Husbandry), Granger laws, the Populist Party, "The Gilded Age", "The Jungle", the Square Deal, The Federal Reserve Act, a Federal Trade Commission, the Clayton Antitrust Act, the 16th Amendment,** |
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| **Vocabulary:** | **economic growth and affluence, a severe economic depression, farmers experiencing periods of hardship, the laissez-faire capitalism, the social Darwinism, the survival of the fittest, labor movement, labor union, a cigar union official, to recruit members, to have apolitical objectives, to turn away from radical socialist groups, to organize a nation-wide strike, to protest wage cuts, to go on a strike, to call in the police to break up a strike, Carnegie's steel works, soil exhaustion, the vagaries of the weather, a decline in self-sufficiency, a lack of adequate legislative protection, to become dependent on the railroad to transport one's farm produce, high protective tariffs, the sharecropping system, to share up part of one's crop in exchange for seed and supplies, overproduction, to set up cooperative societies, populism, to limit railroad and warehouse fees, to demand a flexible currency system, investigative work by journalists, to draw people's attention to social evils, "muckrakers", shocking sanitary conditions in a meat-packing houses, progressivism, to increase the government's supervision in the enforcement of the antitrust laws, to force railroad companies to charge fair rate** |

**Exam Questions:**

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| 1. | Describe the plight of American miners and their families living in the anthracite coalmining region of Northeastern Pennsylvania. (Include John Mitchell & the United Mine Workers, the Lattimer Massacre, the Anthracite Miners’ Strike of 1900.) |
| 2. | Examine closely the assumptions and logic of Carnegie’s statements in “Wealth” against the backdrop of his activities as a laissez-faire businessman in the closing decades of the 19th century. |
| 3. | Explain what the Progressive Era was, contributions made by the ‘muckrakers’ and the leadership in the reform movement provided by the presidents of T. Roosevelt and W. Wilson. |